

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please AMEND claims 1 and 27 and CANCEL claims 32 – 25 in accordance with the following.

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An information storage medium for use with a recording and/or reproducing apparatus comprising:

a user data area in which user data is recorded and having first sync patterns; and
an additional data area located in at least one of areas before and after the user data area and having second sync patterns different from the first sync patterns and that allow the apparatus to distinguish the additional data area from the user data area,

wherein:

~~the second sync patterns are different from first sync patterns,~~

the second sync patterns include a third sync pattern having a third sync body and a third sync identification, and a fourth sync pattern having a fourth sync body and a fourth sync identification, and

the third sync identification is different from the fourth sync identification.

2. (ORIGINAL) The information storage medium of claim 1, wherein at least one of the first and second sync patterns are disposed in plural locations, and the one sync patterns are arranged such that adjacent pairs of the one sync patterns are separated by equal intervals.

3. (ORIGINAL) The information storage medium of claim 2, wherein the second sync patterns are arranged in locations in the additional data area so that a size of each of the user data recorded in the user data area is equal to a size of each of the additional data recorded in the additional data area.

4. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The information storage medium of claim 3, wherein

each of the first and second sync patterns comprises sync data that comprises a sync identification that satisfies a run-length limited (RLL) (d, k) code having a minimum constraint of d and a maximum constraint of k.

5. (ORIGINAL) The information storage medium of claim 3, wherein the user data area comprises a plurality of the first sync patterns, and a total size of the additional data recorded in the additional data area is an integer multiple of a size of the user data recorded between an adjacent pair of the first sync patterns.

6. (ORIGINAL) The information storage medium of claim 2, wherein the user data area comprises a plurality of the first sync patterns, and a total size of the additional data recorded in the additional data area is an integer multiple of a size of the user data recorded between an adjacent pair of the first sync patterns.

7. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The information storage medium of claim 6, wherein each of the first and second sync patterns comprises sync data that comprises a sync identification that satisfies a run-length limited (RLL) (d, k) code having a minimum constraint of d and a maximum constraint of k.

8. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The information storage medium of claim 2, wherein each of the first and second sync patterns comprises sync data that comprises a sync identification that satisfies a run-length limited (RLL) (d, k) code having a minimum constraint of d and a maximum constraint of k.

9. (ORIGINAL) The information storage medium of claim 1, wherein the second sync patterns are arranged in the additional data area so that a size of each of the user data recorded in the user data area is equal to a size of each of the additional data recorded in the additional data area.

10. (ORIGINAL) The information storage medium of claim 1, wherein the user data area comprises a plurality of the first sync patterns, and a total size of the additional data recorded in the additional data area is an integer multiple of a size of the user data recorded between two adjacent first sync patterns.

11. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The information storage medium of claim 1, wherein each of the first and second sync patterns comprises sync data that comprises a sync identification that satisfies a run-length limited (RLL) (d, k) code having a minimum constraint of d and a maximum constraint of k.

12 – 26. (CANCELED)

27. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A recording and/or reproducing apparatus for use with an information storage medium comprising a user data area having first sync patterns and an additional data area located in at least one of areas before and after the user data area and having second sync patterns that are different from the first sync patterns and that allow the apparatus to distinguish the additional data area from the user data area, the apparatus comprising:

a recording and/or reproducing unit to optically transfer data including user data and/or additional data between the apparatus and the information storage medium; and

a controller to control the recording and/or reproducing unit to transfer the user data with respect to the user data area, and to transfer the additional data with respect to the additional information area,

wherein:

~~the second sync patterns are different from the first sync patterns,~~

the second patterns include a third sync pattern having a third sync body and a third sync identification and a fourth sync pattern having a fourth sync body and a fourth sync identification, and

the third sync identification is different from the fourth sync identification.

28. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The recording and/or reproducing apparatus of claim 27, wherein the controller controls the recording and/or reproducing unit to determine the user data area of the information storage medium wherein:

the first sync pattern of the information storage medium is disposed in a first location and a second location of the user data area so as to define a first size of the user data,

the second sync pattern of the information storage medium is disposed in a first location and a second location of the additional data area so as to define a second size of the additional

data,

wherein the first size is equal to the second size.

29. (ORIGINAL) The recording and/or reproducing apparatus of claim 27, wherein the controller further determines another user data area having the first sync pattern such that the additional data area being disposed between the user data area and the another user data area, and transfers the user data with respect to the another user data area.

30. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The recording and/or reproducing apparatus of claim 27, wherein the controller further detects in the first sync pattern a sync identification that satisfies a run-length limited (RLL) (d, k) code having a minimum constraint of d and a maximum constraint of k.

31. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The recording and/or reproducing apparatus of claim 30, wherein the controller further detects in the second sync pattern a second sync identification that satisfies a run-length limited (RLL) (d, k) code having a minimum constraint of d and a maximum constraint of k.

32 – 35. (CANCELED).